

Juvenile Council Meeting Minutes

**May 12, 2014
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP)
300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 1105
Baltimore, MD 21286**

Participating Members:

Ron Rivlin, Chair
Keith Warner, Vice Chair
Captain Heber Watts, Immediate Past Chair
Zachary Caplan
Lynn Davis
Bruce Edwards
Laura Furr
Lisa Garry
Maceo Hallmon
Alphonso Hawes
Lynette Holmes, (phone)
Michelle Becote-Jackson
Tara Jackson, (phone)
Kenya Lee
Leon Lockett
John McGinnis
Adia Moore
Master Kathryn Poole
Zara Schwartz
Patricia Smith
David Thompson

Staff:

Justice Schisler, Eastern Region Chief
Bill Harper, Juvenile Justice Compliance Monitor
Shanelle Johnson, State DMC Coordinator

I. Welcome and Opening

The meeting was called to order at 1:13 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves. Mr. Rivlin made an announcement on funding for the DMC Coordinators in Baltimore City and Prince George's counties. GOCCP has decided to fund the 25% portion of Baltimore City and Prince George's County DMC award from another funding source. Please note that this is for

one year only and is due to the volume of detained youth in these jurisdictions. All of the DMC Coordinators and Directors have been informed of this decision. The Council is committed to DMC and will work together with the Coordinators to ensure their continued success.

II. Approval of Minutes

Members were provided with minutes from the March 2014 meeting. Ms. Smith's name was not included; however, she was in attendance and requested that the minutes reflect this. Mr. Rivlin made a motion to approve the minutes. Master Poole seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved with amendments to include Ms. Smith's name.

III. Annual Report to the Governor

The Annual Report will be sent to members requesting an e-vote on approval for submission.

IV. Subcommittee Updates

a. Youth

The Youth subcommittee met prior to the Council meeting. The goal is to increase youth participation in the SAG by recruiting additional members and retaining existing members. The subcommittee is also focused on becoming self-sustained and organized in a similar fashion as regular Council meetings. Ms. Garry provided the youth members with a presentation on DJS facilities.

Mr. Caplan was appointed Secretary of the subcommittee.

The Subcommittee reports that they will organize focus groups with youth involved in the system. Ms. Garry recommended that the subcommittee look at where the breakdown in services are and target the appropriate populations, including youth on probation rather than focusing solely on youth in out-of-home placements and youth who are dually involved with DJS and Department of Human Resources (DHR). Several members agreed to further examine the co-committed populations.

Youth manuals were distributed at the Subcommittee meeting and Council members suggested making a more complete orientation package for all new members. The package should include brief biographies for all Council members, the agency that they represent, and their contact information.

b. Grant Monitoring

The Grant Monitoring Subcommittee met via conference call. The subcommittee's goal is to develop a tool, based on other state's models, to evaluate grant programs. Additionally, the subcommittee is developing a schedule for site visits. Ms. Schisler suggested that the committee partner with grant monitors for site visits. This will give members the monitor's perspective as well as allow the committee members to expand on

the visit. Mr. Hallmon stated that program directors should be meeting with members during the site visits. Members also suggested that the subcommittee examine these programs thoroughly to gain firsthand insight as to how the program is implemented and if it is having an impact.

c. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

Captain Watts provided an update on the DMC subcommittee. Members discussed the need to set benchmarks for success.

John McGinnis informed the Council that the Maryland Department of Education (MSDE) was beginning to address DMC in the school system but there is more work to be done on the issue of suspensions and expulsions as it relates to DMC. In order to have an effective local DMC initiative, all partners need to be involved, especially local law enforcement. It was suggested that James Bell from the J. Haywood Burns Institute and Mark Soler from the Center of Children's Law & Policy assist the Council on addressing DMC. Ms. Garry mentioned that buy-in from the courts is necessary and without this partnership, there will be high DMC. Additionally, it was noted that there continues to be issues with accurately capturing the Latino population.

Dr. Lisa Williams from Baltimore County was recommended as a potential member of the DMC subcommittee. Dr. Williams examines racial disparities in the school system. Mr. Rivlin suggested that we send an email for new members to join the DMC subcommittee. Mr. Rivlin also stated that it is important to recognize that the subcommittee's goals include supporting the State DMC Assessment.

The next DMC meeting will be held on May 28, 2014 from 10-12 p.m. at GOCCP. Ms. Garry would like new members added to the agenda. While agreeing that it's important to have the right people at the table, Mr. Rivlin reminded the Council that it needs to be cognizant of making the committees too large.

d. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

Captain Warner provided a subcommittee update. Two applications for new members have been received and the subcommittee has conducted interviews. The subcommittee is awaiting additional information for one candidate to confirm that his agency is supportive of his appointment and has placed the second candidate on hold at this time.

Mr. Rivlin is excited about the partnership and the formalized process for recruitment and interviews. Ms. Moore mentioned that the subcommittee is looking to replace members that are not active on the Council. Mr. Rivlin stated that the subcommittee is emphasizing the time commitment involved during the interview process to encourage active participation.

An orientation packet has been made for the youth members. Members suggested limiting the use of speaking with acronyms during meetings because it is a hurdle for new

members to understand. Mr. Rivlin also suggested adding Ms. Garry's presentation on DJS facilities as part of the orientation package. As discussed earlier, biographies and contact information on members should also be included.

Mr. Rivlin is looking into a possible website or the ability to provide a link to the Council from GOCCP's website.

V. Compliance Monitoring Updates

Mr. Harper provided members with an update on the current number of violations that have occurred from onsite visits and data collected from January through May 2014. The data was broken down by type of violation and by jurisdiction. Mr. Harper also provided members with the site visit schedule for the remainder of 2014. All members are invited to attend site visits. Ms. Furr suggested that Mr. Harper provide the members with a list of the most impactful visits. Mr. Harper will send the members a list of those facilities but did suggest visits in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. These jurisdictions had the most violations in 2013.

Mr. Harper informed members that OJJDP has responded to the 2013 field audit findings response letter. OJJDP has informed GOCCP that "all findings have been cleared and Maryland's compliance monitoring systems is determined to be adequate."

VI. Juvenile Justice Specialist Updates

a. Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

Ms. Schisler provided an update on PREA. May 15 is the date that all states are required to inform the Department of Justice (DOJ) whether they are compliant with PREA or they will incur a penalty. GOCCP is well aware of potential PREA related penalties (which includes a 4.75% Violence against Women Act (VAWA) reduction, a 5% reduction to Byrne Justice Act Assistance Grants (BJAG) and a 5% reduction to Title II Formula (JJAC) grants) and will continue to move towards PREA compliance as DOJ makes necessary resources and audits available. Overall, Maryland could incur an estimated \$267,000 penalty.

Ms. Schisler stated that in order to certify compliance we need to ensure that 1/3 of the facilities are in compliance with PREA. The State is taking steps reduce the impact on our funding levels from those penalties. There are 288 regulations and any one of those could put Maryland out of compliance.

Ms. Holmes and Ms. Schisler suggested that PREA Coordinators Reggie Garnett (DJS) and Rhea Harris (DPSCS) are invited to the next Council meeting to provide an update on PREA audits in detention centers.

VII. DMC Updates

Ms. Johnson provided an updated on the DMC Compliance Plan. OJJDP required that we have technical assistance based on deficiencies noted in the 2013 plan. GOCCP had a conference call on May 2nd with OJJDP. One of the topics that was discussed was the reporting of state population data. OJJDP indicated that states can utilize their own population data or OJJDP's data which is on their website. The second topic discussed was the collection of Latino and Hispanic arrest data. The FBI is currently updating the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) to reflect Latino and Hispanic as reportable races. OJJDP indicates that states should report what they have available for DMC purposes. As far as arrest data from localities, GOCCP provided three recommendations to OJJDP. First, to exclude arrest data due to the fact that FY 13 UCR arrest data will not be released until the late Summer and the report to OJJDP is due at the end of June. An addendum with the data would be submitted once the UCR is released. Second, Maryland could use the previous year's arrest data to calculate the RRI. Third, Maryland could use the first 6 months of data from the UCR FY 13 and then double it to get an estimate of where we will be at the end of the year. OJJDP is leaving any of those three options up to GOCCP.

Ms. Johnson informed the members of the next meeting with the local DMC coordinators on May 15 regarding data collection. Ms. Garry suggested that John Irvine be a part of that meeting to discuss data. Additionally, Ms. Johnson announced that she will be attending the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) conference in Philadelphia, PA in June.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Next Steps:

- Ms. Wheeler will send an e-vote for submission of the Annual Governor's Report.
- Ms. Wheeler will send an email for new members to participate in subcommittees.
- Ms. Wheeler will update the orientation packets as described in the minutes.
- Ms. Wheeler will invite Rhea Harris and Reggie Garnett to the next meeting to provide an update on PREA.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, July 7, 2014
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
GOCCP
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Baltimore, MD 21286
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